

Prosodic Morphology

M Mar 19 ~ W Mar 21

- How do morphological processes like
 - infixation - reduplication
 - truncation - root-and-pattern morphologyfit into a uniform definition of ‘morpheme’?
- Can we develop a more useful elaboration of ‘sound/meaning correspondence’?
- The prosodic hierarchy illuminates the special aspects of sound structure seen in these morpheme types ==> **Prosodic Morphology**

Reduplication

- Some languages have **total reduplication**

Indonesian plural:

rumah ‘house’ *rumah-rumah* ‘houses’

- What does the **sound shape** of this type of morpheme look like?
 - Not a consistent set of phonemes
 - Instead, its sound shape consists of instructions to copy material from the base
 - What material? ==> All of it

Reduplication

- Some languages have **partial reduplication** (see data sets)
- What does the **sound shape** look like for a reduplicative morpheme of this type?
 - Instructions to copy material from the base
 - What material? ==> Is defined in terms of the categories of the **prosodic hierarchy**
 - “Copy enough material to make a foot”
 - “Copy enough material to make a syllable; make the syllable minimal (CV)”
 - “Copy enough material to make a syllable; include as many segments as possible”

Reduplication

- Implications for understanding foot shape
 - Many languages require a foot to be at least or exactly **two moras** (μ) in size
- What is a mora?
 - Part of the prosodic hierarchy
 - A unit of weight:
 - . ‘Light’ syllables have one μ | short V
 - . ‘Heavy’ syllables have two μ | long V
 - A coda contributes one μ in some languages
- So possible foot shapes include **two σ** , and (in some languages) **one heavy σ**

Infixation

- Examples: See data sets
 - English, Ulwa, Chamorro (compare Baker 1985)
- What is the sound shape of an infix like?
 - An infix is a prefix or a suffix
 - But, has special instructions about where to attach based on phonology
- Two approaches to formalizing this:
 - Sound shape includes instructions for which **phonological constituent** to attach to
 - Sound shape includes instructions to produce the **best prosodic structure** for the form

Truncation

- Some morphological processes involve the **removal** of phonological material from the base, rather than addition ==> **truncation**
- Many truncation processes use the categories of the prosodic hierarchy to characterize the shape of their forms
- Data set: Japanese nicknames
 - Consider also English nicknames! Why is *Andrew* shortened to *Andy*, not *Anny* or *Andry*?

Principles of Prosodic Morphology

(adapted from McCarthy & Prince 1998)

(a) Prosodic Morphology Hypothesis

When morphological processes have special annotations concerning sound shape, these conditions are defined in terms of the units of the prosodic hierarchy

(b) Template Satisfaction Condition (*phonological* template)

The way in which prosodically determined units are filled with segmental material is determined by principles of prosody, general and language-specific

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(c) Prosodic Circumscription

The domain to which morphological operations apply may be defined by prosodic criteria as well as morphological ones